

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00
L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /078 W
-----029081 060856Z /10/44

R 010930Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6361
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY ROME

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT; MRN 1491 VICE 1492)

ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, XF
SUBJECT: JOINT ARAB AIR SERVICE TO U.S.

REF: STATE 156146

1. ADLI DAJANI WAS TRAVELLING IN SINGAPORE-BANGKOK
REGION AND ALL OTHER GULFAIR CONTACTS IN BAHRAIN REQUESTED
THAT EMBOFF AWAIT HIS RETURN TO SEEK INFO REQUESTED IN
REFTEL. UNFORTUNATELY AS DAJANI ARRIVED HERE HE WAS
INFORMED OF DEATH OF RELATIVE IN BEIRUT AND TRAVELED
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IMMEDIATELY THERE. DAJANI PLANS TO TRAVEL ON TO
MONTREAL AND U.S. FROM BEIRUT.

2. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER GULFAIR OFFICIALS
EMBASSY GAINED DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT, WITH EXCEPTION
OF DAJANI, GULFAIR IS TAKING FOLLOWING ROLE IN DISCUSSIONS
OF JOINT ARAB AIR SERVICES. MOST GULFAIR OFFICIALS WE

KNOW -- INCLUDING GOB'S BOARD MEMBER -- WOULD PREFER HILLI
LEAVE POSITION OPEN TO ESTABLISH OWN ROUTE TO U.S. IN
ABOUT TWO YEARS. MAIN DRIVING FORCE FOR JOINT SERVICES
APPEARS TO BE ALIA WITH SAUDIA COOLEST TOWARD IDEA.

3. DAJANI IS KNOWN TO FAVOR JOINT ARAB SERVICES AND WE
SUSPECT HE MAY HAVE A PERSONAL STAKE IN SUCH ARRANGEMENTS.
HE NEGOTIATED CONVERSATION OF EXISTING ALIA SERVICE BETWEEN
BAHRAIN AND AMMAN INTO JOINT SERVICE ALTHOUGH IT IS STILL
FLOWN WITH ALIA EQUIPMENT AND COLORS AND IS CONTINUATION
OF ALIA SERVICE AMMAN/SINGAPORE. THERE ARE OTHER "JOINT"
SERVICES BETWEEN GULFAIR AND ARAB AIRLINES WHICH ARE ON
PAPER ONLY WITH ONE LINE OR THE OTHER CONTINUING ALREADY
EXISTING SERVICES. DAJANI HAS TALKED FOR SOME TIME WITH
KUWAIT AIRWAYS ABOUT JOINT CARGO SERVICES INCLUDING
ONE TO THE U.S..

4. DAJANI OCCUPIES, IN EFFECT, THE SENIOR OPERATING
POSITION IN GULFAIR FOR ALL MATTERS EXCEPT FINANCIAL
AND TECHNICAL. HE APPEARS TO HAVE SOMEWHAT MORE
INFLUENCE WITHIN THE AIRLINE AT PRESENT THAN HIS
FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL COLLEAGUES. HOWEVER, WE DO
NOT BELIEVE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO SWING GULFAIR
INTO THE LEAD WITH ALIA ON THE QUESTION OF JOINT
SERVICES UNLESS OTHER LP ES, PARTICULARLY SAUDIA,
BECOME VERY ENTHUSIASTIC.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X

Capture Date: 01 jan 1994

Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARABS, AIRLINES, AIR ROUTES

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE

Draft Date: 01 jul 1978

Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960

Decapton Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:

Disposition Case Number: n/a

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014

Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a

Disposition Reason:

Disposition Remarks:

Document Number: 1978MANAMA01491

Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a

Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D780277-0078

Format: TEL

From: MANAMA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807103/aaaadipk.tel

Line Count: 95

Litigation Code IDs:

Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 9765566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a

Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 78 STATE 156146

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier:

Review Release Date: N/A

Review Release Event: n/a

Review Transfer Date:

Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1854491

Secure: OPEN

Status: NATIVE

Subject: JOINT ARAB AIR SERVICE TO U.S.

TAGS: EAIR, XF, US

To: STATE

Type: TE

vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9765566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings:

Sheryl P. Walter

Declassified/Released

US Department of State

EO Systematic Review

20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014